

year strategy, to achieve a reversal of current levels of hunger and poverty in sub-Saharan Africa, including a commitment to contribute an appropriate United States share of increased bilateral and multilateral poverty-focused resources for sub-Saharan Africa, with an emphasis on—

(A) health, including efforts to prevent, treat, and control HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and other diseases that contribute to malnutrition and hunger, and to promote maternal health and child survival;

(B) education, with an emphasis on equal access to learning for girls and women;

(C) agriculture, including strengthening subsistence agriculture as well as the ability to compete in global agricultural markets, and investment in infrastructure and rural development;

(D) private sector and free market development, to bring sub-Saharan Africa into the global economy, enable people to purchase food, and make health and education investments sustainable;

(E) democratic institutions and the rule of law, including strengthening civil society and independent judiciaries;

(F) micro-finance development; and

(G) debt relief that provides incentives for sub-Saharan African countries to invest in poverty-focused development, and to expand democratic participation, free markets, trade, and investment;

(3) the President should work with the heads of other donor countries and sub-Saharan African countries, and with United States and sub-Saharan African private and voluntary organizations and other civic organizations, including faith-based organizations, to implement the strategies described in paragraph (2);

(4) Congress should undertake a multi-year commitment to provide the resources to implement those strategies; and

(5) 120 days after the date of adoption of this concurrent resolution, and every year thereafter, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal departments and agencies, should submit to Congress a report on the implementation of those strategies, including the action taken under paragraph (3), describing—

(A) the results of the implementation of those strategies as of the date of the report, including the progress made and any setbacks suffered;

(B) impediments to, and opportunities for, future progress;

(C) proposed changes to those strategies, if any; and

(D) the role and extent of cooperation of the governments of sub-Saharan countries and other donors, both public and private, in combating poverty and promoting equitable economic development.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.J. RES. 36

Mr. REID. Mr. President, on behalf of the Republican leadership, I understand the House Joint Resolution 36 is at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (H.J. Res. 36) proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

Mr. REID. I now ask for its second reading and I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The joint resolution will receive a second reading on the next day.

AUTHORIZATION OF TESTIMONY, DOCUMENT PRODUCTION, AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 136 submitted earlier today by the majority and other Republican leaders.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 136) to authorize testimony, document production, and legal representation in the State of Connecticut versus Kenneth J. LaFontaine, Jr.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, this resolution concerns a request for testimony and document production in a criminal case in the Superior Court in Hartford, CT. A resident of Connecticut has been charged with inciting injury to a person, second-degree harassment, and threatening. The criminal charges arise out of threatening and abusive telephone messages left on an answering machine at Senator LIEBERMAN's Connecticut District office, located in Hartford, CT, threatening, among other things, to inflict bodily injury through an attack on a Federal building.

This resolution would authorize an employee on Senator LIEBERMAN's staff who heard the threatening messages to testify and to produce evidence of the calls, with representation by the Senate Legal Counsel.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, and any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 136) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Resolutions Submitted.")

FILING OF AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 2311

Mr. REID. Mr. President, because we have filed a cloture motion in the matter before the Senate, everyone who has an amendment to file will have to do so by 1 o'clock tomorrow.

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, on Thursday the Senate will convene at 10 a.m.

and resume consideration of the Energy and Water Appropriations Act. We still have every belief that we can complete this bill in the morning. We may also consider several Executive Calendar nominations. We had about 10 we thought we were going to be able to do tonight, but for various reasons they were not done.

We hope to complete the debate on the Graham nomination which has an agreed-upon time. And, of course, we hope to begin consideration of the Transportation Appropriations Act.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate adjourn following the statement by the Senator from the State of Alabama, Mr. SESSIONS.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Alabama.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I appreciate the opportunity just to say a few words. I thank Senator REID for his leadership and effort to move the legislation that has been moving forward pretty well so far. I think this side has certainly been cooperative. We have not had anything like the 100-plus amendments that we had when this side was trying to move bills last year. We have been very cooperative.

There is a real concern that this administration, as it gets itself into office facing all kinds of challenges, needs to get its people on board as soon as possible. We are now entering the seventh month of President Bush's administration. Maybe 15 percent of his term has been used up, and we now have 150 nominees who have not been confirmed. Maybe there will be some objections to some and they will need some scrutiny, but most of them are nominations which, if called up and are voted upon on the floor, are going to pass virtually unanimously.

These are good men and women who have left their jobs and careers. They are committed to public service for a period of time. We need to give them an up-or-down vote.

I think we need to set a higher standard than we have done before. I do not object to a Senator who has a concern over a nominee to raise that concern, to highlight the problem, to ask questions, even delay a nominee. But when we have a nominee nobody objects to—and this is true of the overwhelming majority of the 150 or so—we believe they ought to be moving forward promptly. That is why we are at loggerheads a little bit here. There are some strong feelings that we need a good, firm commitment we will move these nominations before we leave in August for a month away because then we will come back with all kinds of things and it will be September with appropriations bills and there will be

other issues and it will be harder than ever to get up nominations. Even more of them will be in the system by then, having been submitted by the President. It is going to be a big problem if we do not move promptly.

I think this is a reasonable request. I know Senator REID, Senator DASCHLE and others, have indicated they will make some progress, but we are not confident we have made a strong enough determination and commitment at this point in time to ensure those nominees move forward. I hope maybe this cloture motion can be vitiated and we will be able to reach accord and move forward, but I just want to say for the record that the matter is very serious. We have probably taken too long to move nominations as we go forward.

I think the ones that have little or no objection certainly ought to be moved forward.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, my friend from Alabama is right. There is no question that the process is very cumbersome. I hope in the future that we can maintain our record. We have a clear conscious. We cleared 54 last week. It was really the first week that we were in power because committees were just organized. With the leadership having changed, it slowed things down a little bit. But there wasn't much the Republicans could have done while they controlled the Senate because of the funnel that just doesn't allow these nominations to get here.

We have worked diligently today. Our staff worked. I told one of Senator LOTT's staff people just a minute ago that I spoke to Senator BIDEN earlier today, and we had told him that prior to the August recess we would clear all of those that already had hearings. We received a call back from Senator BIDEN's staff, and he told us that he spoke to Senator BIDEN and Senator BIDEN hopes to clear as many as 20 from the Foreign Relations Committee prior to the recess.

We recognize it is an embarrassment to this country—as powerful as the United States is—not having an Ambassador in a country. That is something that is good for the country. It is not because of Democrats or Republicans.

The Senator from Alabama is absolutely right. For the vast majority of these people, there is no problem at all. We just have to get them through the hearing process, which is sometimes cumbersome.

If there is somebody who has some objections, we can arrange something just like Graham. We are going to debate the Graham nomination when we finish the energy and water bill. There is time. I wanted to finish it tonight.

I wish right now that we could be doing this and Graham could look forward tomorrow morning to a very early vote and we could complete that matter. It is a contentious issue, but it is something we need to do. We can do that on others.

I have worked diligently. A lot of times people criticize me on my side because I work too closely with Senator LOTT on moving some of these bills. Last year, prior to the August recess, we did eight appropriations bills. Republicans controlled the Senate. But we moved eight appropriations bills. That was hard, hard work. But we did it. The Senator is right. A lot of times there were lots of amendments on those bills. But we worked our way through them.

I hope the Senator, who has a fine legal mind, is very concerned about what is happening. He wants his President to have all the help he needs. I hope the President gets all of his sub-cabinet people approved real soon.

I listened to an account on public radio just a short time ago. It is absolutely correct. It said what I already know—that President Bush will be lucky to have his sub-cabinet people approved by February. That is not because of partisan politics. It is because a system has developed in this country where we have vetting by the White House, by the Justice Department, by the agency in which the person is going to serve. It is too cumbersome and too burdensome.

Why do we need to have all this process for Dan Coats? Dan Coats served in the Senate up until a couple of years ago. He will be confirmed easily. Everybody likes him. It seems to me that the administration—Democratic and Republican administrations—should just have a little more courage, and say: We don't need Dan Coats to be vetted—that is just how I feel about it—by anyone. Let's just bring him down here, and he will stand or fall on how we feel about Dan Coats.

I hope in the morning that the Senator from Alabama and his colleagues who are concerned about this will look at our good-faith efforts. We are trying to do everything that we can. As I said, we were willing to clear 9 or 10 people tonight. For reasons that the Senator understands, we decided not to do that.

We haven't gotten much credit for the 54 we confirmed. We want to make sure that you feel good about what we are trying to do. There are a number of people as we proceed who may have some problems. We will identify those and set a special time for having some debate on the floor so we can have an up-or-down vote on them. We are not going to hold them up just to be holding them up.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I thank the Senator for his comments. We have made some progress. There were some objections last week and some concerns about not moving. The Democratic leadership moved 50 or more. But we still have 150, and we are coming up on the August recess. That is all we are saying.

Mr. REID. One-hundred and sixty.

Mr. SESSIONS. If we don't get moving now, we are not going to be able to finish by August with many confirmed. That will get us even further behind.

We are going to have a flood of nominations that haven't even come in yet. I am frustrated, as a former U.S. attorney, that no U.S. attorney nominees have even been made. I guess the President deserves blame for that. Maybe the FBI is working the other nominees and can't get the backgrounds on them, or whatever. The Senator from Nevada said perhaps they are terrified that they will nominate somebody who will have a black mark on their record and the administration will be embarrassed.

But I think all we are asking is let's give an intensity of interest to it. Let's give it our best shot before we recess in August to make sure that the backgrounds have been done on every one of these nominees so they are ready to go forward. The committees have to have some hearings. I know they are busy. We have been having hearings in the Judiciary on the FBI and DEA nominees, but we haven't had but three judges come out of Judiciary in 7 months, and none have been confirmed. We have to speed up a little bit. That is what we are asking.

I thank the Chair and yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until the hour of 10 a.m. tomorrow, Thursday, July 19, 2001.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 8:17 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, July 19, 2001, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate July 18, 2001:

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

HARVEY PITT, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 5, 2002. VICE PAUL R. CARY.

HARVEY PITT, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 5, 2007. (REAPPOINTMENT)

MISSISSIPPI RIVER COMMISSION

BRIGADIER GENERAL EDWIN J. ARNOLD, JR., UNITED STATES ARMY, TO BE A MEMBER AND PRESIDENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER COMMISSION, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 2 OF AN ACT OF CONGRESS, APPROVED JUNE 1879 (21 STAT. 37) (33 USC 642).

BRIGADIER GENERAL CARL A. STROCK, UNITED STATES ARMY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER COMMISSION, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 2 OF AN ACT OF CONGRESS, APPROVED 28 JUNE 1879 (21 STAT. 37) (22 USC 642).

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THEODORE H. KATTOUF, OF MARYLAND, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC.

MAUREEN QUINN, OF NEW JERSEY, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE STATE OF QATAR.

JOSEPH GERARD SULLIVAN, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE.

JOHNNY YOUNG, OF MARYLAND, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

JEFFREY D. JARRETT, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT, VICE KATHLEEN M. KARPAN.